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CEREMONY AT SAN ILDEFONSO

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Annual Report National Museum

The annual report of the National Museum, covering more than 200 printed pages, has been received from the Government Printing Office, and covers in detail the activities of the Institution. The appropriation for the Museum by Congress for the last fiscal year was $609,320 of which $43,500 was for printing, $78,140 for heating and lighting, $23,730 for furniture and fixtures, $12,000 for building repairs, $1500 for books and $450,000 for salaries and administration. For 1928, the appropriation is considerably larger and has enabled the Museum to raise the salaries of all employes who have been in the service for more than a year. The Museum had 1,153,212 visitors during the past fiscal year as against 276,527 thirty years ago. The Library, representing mostly exchanges with other scientific institutions, now numbers 69,300 volumes and 105,716 pamphlets. The Division of American Archaeology makes special mention of the large contribution of the National Geographical Society in materials collected by Neil M. Judd at one time with the School of American Research, during several seasons of field work at Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. The specimens numbered 2,480 including many lots, and consist of pottery, stone, bone, wood and shell artifacts. The Geographical Society also presented material secured from Pueblo del Arroyo, from small house sites near Chaco Canyon and from other pueblo sites in the Canyon. A large collection excavated by Dr. J. Walter Fewkes from a ruin named Eldon

Pueblo, near Flagstaff, Arizona, consisting principally of pottery new to the Museum, was transferred from the Bureau of American Ethnology. Research by the curator of physical anthropology, Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, a member of the managing committee of the School of American Research, was continued in two major lines of man's evolution and antiquity and of the origin and antiquity of American aborigines. The Museum now has 668,312 specimens, which would indicate that in the Department of Anthropology in the future, it is not so much specimen hunting and acquisition, that is important, as it is to correlate and study what has been gathered and to publish the results.

Another Museum for New York

Negotiations are reported practically complete for the purchase of a site in Washington Square, New York City, for a City Museum, the construction of which is to cost $1,500,000.

AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Sundial Temples of Uaxactun

Giant sundial temples told the ancient pre-Columbian Maya race of Central America when to plant crops and perform religious rites, Dr. Sylvanus G. Morley, Carnegie Institution archaeologist, and formerly with the School of American Research, revealed in the opening address of the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Nashville, Tennessee, on December 26, 1927. Excavating in the ruined, jungle-grown city of Uaxactun, in the northern part of the Department of Peten, Guatemala, Dr. Morley's

expedition investigated three temples and a large pyramid that form a great sundial for determining the positions of the equinoxes and solstices so important in regulating the calendar. Since Uaxactun is the oldest Maya city yet discovered so far, as indicated by hieroglyphic monuments which date from 68 to 630 A. D., this is evidence of considerable cultural advancement and practical astronomical knowledge on the part of priests of that early 100 per cent. American culture. The ancient Maya priests used the stairway ascending the pyramid as a point of observation for sunrise, and the temples were so located with reference to the pyramid, that the sun rose behind the northern front corner of Temple I as seen from the point of observation, on the day of the summer solstice, June 21; and behind the middle point of Temple II on the days of the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, March 21 and September 21 respectively; and behind the southern front corner of Temple III on the day of the winter solstice, December 21. This group of buildings is in effect a giant sun-dial, so arranged as to fix for the former inhabitants of Uaxactun the positions of these four principal stations of the year, by which they could regulate their agricultural activities. "The excavation of the pyramid," Dr. Morley said, "brought to light a series of enormous human heads molded in stucco, each 8 feet wide and 8 feet high which formerly decorated all four sides, although many of them have been destroyed by the luxuriant tropical vegetation of thirteen centuries. "In the sanctuary of Temple II, an altar was found which had buried beneath it material of a very interesting nature. In a covered pottery vase there was found a little human figurine, 7 inches high, very crudely carved of mud stone and painted red. This is so crudely executed that it would

appear to date from the very earliest period of the city's occupancy. In addition to this figurine, many bat skeletons were found buried beneath this altar, as well as two obsidian knives, with which they had probably been sacrificed. "Under the floors of the sanctuaries of all three temples, and in each case immediately south of the corresponding altar, was found a human skull buried in a bowl and covered by another bowl, possibly victims which had been sacrificed in some long-forgotten ceremony." A new archaeological site in Guatemala, called La Muralla, containing a unique high wall elaborately decorated with stucco figures, was discovered by the Carnegie investigators during last year's field season. Dr. Morley described brilliant paintings that were uncovered on the walls of an ancient temple buried within the famous pyramid of the Temple of the Warriors at the greatest Maya city, Chichen Itza. The wall paintings in this temple, because it had been covered up in ancient times, were in a beautiful state of preservation. The colors on the bodies of the enormous serpents with which the walls had been adorned were practically as bright as on the day they were painted. Even the sculptured columns which were also brilliantly painted, were in a condition which the numismatists described as "mint state." On the floor of the outer chamber thrown over on its back, buried under tons of rubble fill, was a life size statue of a reclining human figure of a type called Chac Mool. The figure reclines on its back, its shoulders elevated, the knees drawn up, and the head turned to the left. The hands support over the abdomen a stone disc, or plate, which was for the purpose of holding offerings of the faithful. This figure had also been painted in brilliant colors originally.—*Science Service.*

Library of Pot Sherds

A library composed, not of books, but of fragments of clay bowls and jars used by prehistoric Indians east of the Rocky Mountains has been begun at the University of Michigan, Dr. Carl E. Guthe, of the Museum of Anthropology at Ann Arbor, and formerly a member of the Pecos Expedition, reported to anthropologists attending the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Investigations of Indian Life and customs have been hampered by the fact that scientists usually work within the boundaries of a state, Dr. Guthe said, though the Indian cultures shifted and spread, so that they do not fit well within political boundaries. The project of collecting samples of pottery made by all the types of Indians of the east was approved by a recent meeting of the Division of Anthropology and Psychology of the National Research Council. Such a collections will be of great value to scientists, Dr. Guthe declared, because pottery specimens are abundant, and they are a particularly satisfactory guide to the kind of culture different Indian groups had attained.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Medicine and the Science of Man

Doctors can profit greatly by a closer study of anthropology, the science that treats of man in general and his activities as a rational animal from the remote past until now. This is the opinion voiced by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, of the U. S. National Museum and member of the Managing Committee of the School of American Research who at the meeting of the American Association for the Ad-

vancement of Science made a strenuous appeal for a closer affiliation in the future of the two sciences, anthropology and medicine. "Anthropology," said Dr. Hrdlicka, "has given medicine, and is still giving, three lines of contributions of much weight and value. The first of these is the light on human evolution; the second comprises the results of our studies on human variation; and the third is furnishing medicine with normal standards. "A knowledge of human evolution, past, present, and with indications for the future is indispensable to medicine if this is to fathom the deeper causes and the trends of a large part of human pathology, with its differences according to race and type. "Equally indispensable to scientific medicine of the future will be a sound knowledge of human variation. For this teaches that even under the most 'normal' or uncomplicated conditions, everything, in our frame, organs, functions, and even the causes of disease, and the process of the same, is subject to a very perceptible range of variation. The medical textbooks, your anatomies, physiologies and pathologies, deal not with the realities as they are, but with 'workable' abstracts or gists of these realities. Yet without the understanding of the normal variation of every feature, every process, every manifestation of man, normal and abnormal, a true understanding of any part of medicine is not possible. "The third main service of anthropology to medicine, the determination of standards, is connected with the preceding. It is self-evident that the medical man to judge properly must have normal standards of the parts in which he is interested at the time, in the particular people with whom he is dealing. And to find these standards (or averages), with their range of normal (non-pathological) variation, is the peculiar function of anthropological endeavor."

The value of anthropology to medicine is much better

appreciated in the Old World and even in such countries as Japan and China, Dr. Hrdlicka added, than it is in this country at the present time.

Climatic Influence on Human Stature

The shortest people in the world are found in the climates of extreme heat or cold where the food supply is difficult and precarious, Prof. R. Bennett Bean of the University of Virginia told members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The Negrillos of central Africa average around four feet four inches, according to Prof. Bean's figures, while the Aymaras of central South America are close seconds. Next to these groups come the Eskimo, Lapps and Siberians, who live in regions of Arctic cold with a poor food supply. The tallest people, Prof. Bean pointed out, are found in the temperate climates where active life is possible and an abundant food supply prevails, notably around the shores of the Baltic Sea, eastern Africa, and the plains and pampas of the Americas. "Looked at in its broadest sense," he stated, "environment molds the individual, selection retains the fittest under different environments, and heredity carries on the results. Certain stocks may move into areas for which they are not fitted and remain for a time. Such conditions exist throughout the world today where recent movements of peoples have taken place, but ultimately there is a survival of the stock best fitted for the environment. The unfit stocks disappear in time by amalgamation, eradication or dispersal." Sea areas and probably sea food have an influence in reducing stature by increasing the iodine intake, Prof. Bean stated. The present Mediterranean peoples, for instance, and the primordial British, have small statures and so also the Japanese, yet they come from taller continental stocks.

PALEONTOLOGY

Animal Life in Ice Age

The theory that all of the kinds of gigantic and remarkable animals that lived in prehistoric America found refuge in Florida when ice sheets swept down from the north, and that they survived there until recent times when the Indians came, was attacked by Dr. Oliver P. Hay, paleontologist of the U. S. National Museum, at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This theory, held by many, is impossible, he said. When four different glacial periods crowded the animals into the southern states, the incongruous groups of creatures must have fought for mastery and many kinds must have been wiped out, even if the climate was favorable. But excessive changes of climate occurred. Cold winds and cold rains, and probably times of excessive heat and dryness must have wiped out more of the less adaptable animals. Some hardy species resisted the weather and their enemies and are living yet, he said. The coming of the animals was described by Dr. Hay, from the times of the sharks and crocodilian reptiles, on to the days when mammals appeared and there were primitive tapirs, four-toed horses, camels, and rhinoceroses, and then, as the ice age began, huge ground sloths, armadillos, glytodons, and later in the ice age the elephants, bison, deer, mastodons, bears, and dogs and cats. The newcomers, of the ice age, coming from Asia and from the south, mingled with the native mammals to provide North America with an extraordinarily rich animal life. But when white men came all this animal life had become inpoverished. Camels, horses, ground-sloths, mastodons, tigers, and great dogs were all gone. Progress in settling the geologic strata

to which the American animals belong was reported by Dr. Hay.

Race Suicide of Primitive Fauna

Involuntary race suicide caused the great hairy mammoths and rhinoceroses whose fleshy carcasses and bones are found well preserved in the great natural ice-box of northern Siberia, to become extinct, Prof. I. T. Tolmachoff, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, told the Paleontological Society. Discovery of the frozen remains of the mammoth caused this Arctic animal to take a prominent position in Siberian folklore and Chinese legend at the time that European nature philosophers were at a loss to reconstruct the animals whose gigantic bones were discovered in various parts of Europe. In fact the ivory of their tusks entered commerce as early as the fourth century B. C., and even now half of the marketed ivory has its origin in the mammoth localities of northern Siberia. Prof. Tolmachoff's idea is that the great animals became over specialized and therefore died out. "Examination of plants found in their stomachs," Prof, Tolmachoff said, "shows that the flora of their pasturage was not essentially different from the present, and that the climate of the mammoth age was not much warmer. It could not have been much warmer or the preservation of carcasses would have been impossible. Adaptation to surroundings is shown by the wide distribution, the great number, and the splendid physical condition of the animals thus preserved. All were well fed, often overfed, having a thick layer of fat under their skin. Extermination by man can not be accepted. Extreme specialization affected the reproductive abilities of the race and brought about its gradual extinction, although at the same time individuals might be in splendid physical condition.

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AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

SHELL MOUNDS IN AFRICA

Huge mounds of snail shells from innumerable long-ago dinners are evidence that prehistoric men in North Africa depended chiefly on snails for food, Dr. George L. Collie, director of the Logan Museum of Beloit College, told anthropologists attending the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. A shell mound 300 feet long and eight feet high has been excavated by an expedition from the Logan Museum. Among the snail shells and kitchen ashes of the dump piles are found some bones of animals and once in a while a human skeleton, he said. Excavators here also unearthed flint arrow points and scrapers and hammer

stones lost or thrown away by Stone Age men and women thousands of years ago. Small bone tools with fine, delicate points are the most common of the bone implements in the shell mounds, and some archaeologists believe that they were used as picks or forks to remove the snails from their shells, Dr. Collie said.

MUSEUM EVENTS

Miss Shonnard's Exhibit

The sculpture exhibit by Miss Eugenie Shonnard, which was the most successful exhibit in the history of the Art Museum thus far, closed during the present week. However, Miss Shonnard, by special request, will permit several of the larger superb pieces to remain on exhibit, and will in August of this year, make an exhibit of water colors. A number of sales were made during the exhibit. The American Art Magazine will shortly publish a review of the exhibit which has attracted nation-wide attention.

January Exhibits

A number of new exhibits go up next week. These include three fine canvasses by Bert Phillips of Taos. W. R. Mruk who has not exhibited for some time, having been away from Santa Fe, will make an exhibit. Gerald Cassidy will show his French work and Dorothy Brett of Taos has sent several pictures for exhibit.

Concert Lectures

Under the auspices of the Kiwanis Club, ten lecture recitals will be given in the St. Francis Auditorium by John L. Nelson, head of the Santa Fe Conservatory of Music. The first lecture will be Sunday afternoon, January 29, with a recital each Sunday afternoon following. The first four recitals will be devoted to Beethoven, two to Brahms, and one each to Schumann, Chopin, Tschaikovsky and DeBussy. Each lecture will be illustrated with vocal and instrumental selections.

PERSONAL MENTION

Dr. Hewett Returns

Dr. Edgar L. Hewett has returned from the east where he attended the meetings of the Archaeological Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, and looked after Museum and School interests in New York, Washington, D. C., and elsewhere. He left with Mrs. Hewett for Albuquerque on Monday.

Miss Arnold Home

Miss Charlotte Arnold, secretary of the Museum and School, has returned from Berkeley, Calif., where she had been called in December by the illness and death of her mother.

EL PALACIO

Appreciation Appreciated

Mrs. Joseph W. Hoblit of Atlanta, Ill., writes "I thoroughly enjoy *El Palacio* and that with *Art and Archaeology* makes mighty interesting reading."

AMERICAN INDIAN

Musical Ability of Indian Children

Do Indian children have especial musical ability, any racial heritage from their tom-tom playing and their dancing ancestors? Tests of musical ability which have been given to white children have also been tried on 550 Indian boys and girls of 27 different tribes, Miss Rachel Isbell, of the University of Denver, reported to the American Psychological Association and the Indians excelled the white children in some respects. In pitch and memory the Indian is inferior to the white, Miss Isbell found. In rhythm the Indian children were slightly better than the white, but not enough to be called a racial difference. In their sense of time the Indian boys were much better than the white children, while the Indian girls were somewhat inferior, Miss Isbell said. This might be explained, she added, on the basis of training, because the Indian men are the ones who take an active part in the ceremonial dances. In intensity and consonance the Indian children rated about the same as the white.

AMONG THE INDIANS

Holiday Ceremonies

Many were the visitors from near and afar who during the Christmas and New Year holidays attended the customary ceremonies and dances at the pueblos of Taos, Santo Domingo, San Felipe and in the other Indian pueblos. San Ildefonso is making big preparations for its annual fiesta on Monday, January 23.

Trouble at Santa Clara

The truce which had been patched up by U. S. Indian Commissioner Merritt between the warring factions at Santa Clara pueblo several months ago, appears to have come to naught over the annual selection of the governor and the pueblo again has two governors, one chosen by the so-called conservative and the other by the radical faction.

IN THE FIELD

Iron Age Pompeii in Germany

Visit the German Pompeii, is the new invitation to tourists by sightseeing companies. The buried community thus advertised to the public is a village recently discovered in a field at Werder, not far from Berlin, and believed to date back to about 600 B. C. The chance find of a number of urns revealed the existence of the ancient settlement, and the site of an entire village is now being

gradually unearthed. The urns, which were apparently placed in the village cemetery, contain many brooches, household utensils and similar belongings, mostly fashioned in bronze. No skeletons have been found, and it is considered likely that these people, like others of the early Iron Age, burned the bodies of the dead in their burial rites. The foundation of the homes of the people are well preserved, but the walls, which were probably of wood, have vanished. The discovery is exciting considerable interest in archaeological circles, and scientists are visiting the site in the hope of obtaining new data on life in the Iron Age of Europe.

To Explore Unknown Mexico

Plans for an expedition to unexplored regions of Central America and Mexico are being completed by Tulane University, according to announcement by Dr. Frans Blom, acting head of the department of Middle American research, of the university. The expedition is made possible by a fund, and will be known as the John Geddings Gray Memorial Expedition. The expedition staff, which expects to set out early in January, will travel about 2,000 miles, seeking ruins of old Maya cities, studying little known tribes and venturing into the great unexplored forests of the Tzendales region. In these forests are thousands of square miles very little known, Dr. Blom states. "Fifteen hundred years ago," he says, "this forest was under culture and scattered throughout the area must be a series of interesting cities in ruin. The 1925 Tulane Expedition found many ruins on the southeastern side of this territory. The Austrian explorer Teobert Maler discovered many magnificent cities along the Usumacinta River, and as the country between the territory explored by the Tulane Expedition of 1925 and

the afore-mentioned river is quite like the area already explored there is little doubt but that we shall make some remarkable discoveries. "The Lacondon Indians, who inhabit this forest, speak of several lakes which have never been placed on the maps and it will be one of our objects to locate these. The Lacondon Indians, to this day, use flint-headed arrows for weapons. They dress in bark clothes, and they worship the sun and rain gods. Their life has been studied by Professor A. M. Tozzer, of Harvard University, wellknown in Santa Fe where he has visited, but the Gray Memorial Expedition will be the first to take moving pictures of this strange tribe. As the tribe is in rapid decline and dying out, these pictures will probably also be the last to be taken of the Lacondons." The expedition staff will consist of three or four scientists, headed by Dr. Blom.

AMONG THE RED MEN

Rabbit Drive by Tortugas Indians

The Tortugas Indians opened their Christmas festivities with a rabbit drive in which old and young took part. It is an annual event and no matter how bad the weather almost the entire village population assembles at sunrise on the hills just east of Las Cruces from which place the drive starts, led by the "patrone." No firearms are used, only stones, sticks and blunt pointed arrows. After the Indians are assembled on horseback and on foot and with wagons for the very young, they spread out in a long line and with much laughter and song move on. Whenever a long- eared jackrabbit or a frightened cottontail shows himself, cries of "conejo! conejo!" ring down the line and the drive is on in earnest. Several

hundred rabbits are usually killed and the young man who returns to the village without one is made the brunt of jests for many days to come. A feast is held in the evening. The custom of holding the hunt is an old one and was observed by the Pueblo Indians long before the Spanish came. The Tortugas Indians are kinsmen of the Tiguas of the village of Ysleta, below El Paso. Their ancestors were brought by Governor Otermin as prisoners from the Pueblo of Isleta, south of Albuquerque, in the rebellion of 1680.

PRIMITIVE MAN

American Indians and Cro-Magnon Age

The possible claim of the red-skinned natives of the Americas to descent from the noblest line of the Old Stone Age in Europe was set forth by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, noted anthropologist of the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C., and member of the Managing Committee of the School of American Research. Dr. Hrdlicka has just returned from a European trip during which he re-examined practically all of the known remains of paleolithic man. Speaking before the anthropological section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which is holding its annual meetings here this week, he outlined certain striking similarities both in bodily structure and in cultural customs between the Indians and the latest of the races of the Cro-Magnon type. Dr. Hrdlicka said in part "The recent revision which I have made of practically the entire extent of skeletal material from the Aurignacian times throws important new light on the problem of the Aurignacian

('Cro-Magnon') man, a light which is at considerable variance with previous assumption. The new conclusions are in brief as follows: "The tall and powerful men of Grimaldi represent not a racial character, but individual or a family variation. There are three of these skeletons, all male and all approaching giantism. The two 'negroid' skeletons of Grimaldi, now preserved in the museum of Monaco, are more or less negroid only in their facial appearance. Their low orbits, the cranial vault, and all the main characteristics of the skeleton are so close to the rest of the Grimaldi individuals and to other members of the 'Grimaldi race,' or Upper Aurignacians, elsewhere, that they can safely be regarded as of the same type and derivation. The 'negroid' features of their faces may be duplicated among other non-negro races, particularly the Malay, and some of the American Indians. The supposed much greater antiquity of the two 'negroid' skeletons is not supported either by their physical or their other characteristics, and the matter would seem to need a reconsideration. The case was unquestionably a double burial, and as such the remains may have been introduced into strata to which they would not properly belong. Some of the most characteristic and distinguishing features of the later Aurignacians relate to the shape and size of their ribs, which are unusually broad and strong and to the shapes and relative sizes of their lower leg bones. The special characteristics of the leg bones extend as far as the Predmost skeletons of Moravia and the Paviland skeleton of England. There are growing indications that the Upper Aurignacians may have been rather closely affiliated with the faraway European or Siberian ancestors of the oblong-headed aboriginal Americans. There are many features in common to the two. The vault of the skull is often extremely similar

in size and shape. Low orbits and other facial characteristics of the Aurignacians are also occasionally met with in the Indians. There are certain Aurignacian-like similarities in the aboriginal American stone and bone culture. The habit of burying quantities of red ocher with their dead, which resulted in the staining of the bones, among the Upper Aurignacians, was also common among the American Indians. There are many indications that from the Middle Aurignacian times man began to steadily increase and extend over the earth; and that he remained much the same in physique through the succeeding terminal parts of the paleolithic period and up to the neolithic times when, according to the best evidence we now possess, he began gradually to extend over into America."—*Science Service.*

Ice Walls Sheltered Caves

Walls of ice sheltered the cave men of Europe from the chill blasts of the glaciers that invaded that continent during the age that they lived. To the Geological Society of America Prof. Thomas C. Brown of Fitchburg, Miss., reported that rock shelters, shown by archaeological excavations to have been inhabited in the glacial epochs, had their now open fronts closed by ice walls that covered the cliff faces. Seeing such an ice structure on a small cave suggested this explanation to Mr. Brown.

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID

R. P. Hughes, Nicholas Roosevelt, Joe H. Green, Mrs. Chas H. Dierick, J. G. Rogers, W. Schdrodt, Mrs Jas. W. Hoblet Mrs. C. G. Carey.